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REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action of August 6, 2004, all claims were rejected. In the present response, Applicants traverse the rejections as follows:

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 10, and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Arunachalam ("hereinafter "Arun", US 2003/0069922 A1). It was alleged that Arun teaches all of Applicants' claim elements, specifically, a service hub that receives access messages that define access rights for a user subscriber and a network server for providing service information to a requesting user subscriber based on the access rights defined in the access message. Applicants do not believe that Arun teaches any of these claim features.

Arun teaches a system for providing "service transactions" to clients through a "hub" that connects to multiple "service providers". The client uses an "access device" to link to the hub. The access device performs a multi-service provider transaction under the control of a "network transactional application" at a hub and includes a router to communicate with distributed software objects running at the service providers' locations. Simply stated, Arun allows clients to perform multi-party transactions across a network. One example of such a multi-party transaction is described with respect to FIG. 12 and paragraphs 0096-0100 in Arun. This example illustrates the purchase, billing, and shipment of goods for sale. The user orders merchandise through the hub from a first "service provider" (the supplier selling the goods) which checks inventory and indicates back to the hub that the goods are available. Next, the hub bills the customer using a second "service provider" (Visa). Finally, the goods are shipped using a third "service provider" (Federal Express). The user is notified after these transactions are completed, and the status of the shipment is provided.

Applicants' claimed invention, on the other hand, does not describe multi-service provider transactions of any kind. Rather, Applicants teach providing

information to users based on *access rights* that are defined by a "service administrator" (i.e., in one embodiment, a truck dispatcher).

Applicants' claim 1 recites, "...the service hub including a receiver that receives *access messages* that define *access rights* for the user subscribers..." Applicants' claim 10 recites, "a processor operable to receive an *access message* that *associates the service information with the user subscribers...*" and, "...a server interface operable to receive a request for service information from the user subscriber and provide selected service information to the user subscriber *based on the access message*. Applicants' claim 19 recites, "...*determining access rights* that associate the service information with the user subscribers..." and, "...providing *selected* service information to the selected user subscriber, wherein the selected service information is derived from the service information *based on the access rights*."

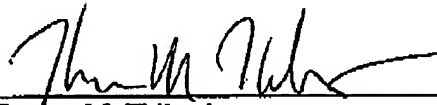
Applicants can find no teaching in Arun of the use of defining access rights for subscribers and then providing information to the user based on the access rights. For this reason alone, the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

All of the other claim rejections are drawn to dependent claims. Applicants believe that all of the independent claims are allowable, based on the foregoing analysis. Therefore, Applicants likewise believe that all of the other claim rejections should be withdrawn as being dependent on allowable claims.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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